

## **U.S. Department of Justice**

Stephen J. Sorenson

**Acting United States Attorney District of Utah** 

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 6, 2006

**CONTACT: MELODIE RYDALCH** 

801-325-3206

801-243-6475 (CELL)

## PRESS RELEASE

## TWO UTAHNS FACE CHILD PORNOGRAPHY CHARGES IN CASE INVOLVING CHILD MODELING WEBSITES

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Assistant Attorney General Alice S. Fisher of the Criminal Division, Acting United States Attorney for the District of Utah Stephen J. Sorenson and Timothy J. Fuhrman, Special Agent in Charge of the Salt Lake City Field Office of the FBI announced today that Matthew Duhamel, 32, of Bountiful, Utah, and Charles Granere, 25, of Orem, Utah, will appear in federal court Tuesday in Salt Lake City on child pornography charges relating to the operation of child modeling websites displaying what court documents allege are numerous sexually explicit depictions of young children.

A magistrate judge ordered Duhamel and Granere, who were arrested Friday, to remain in custody over the weekend pending Tuesday's detention hearing. Tuesday's hearing will be at 10:00 a.m. in U.S. Magistrate Judge Brooke C. Wells' courtroom.

Duhamel and Granere are charged in a three-count complaint with transportation, receipt and possession of child pornography. Transportation and receipt of child pornography each carry potential mandatory minimum sentences of five years in federal prison and the sentences can go as high as 20 years. The potential maximum penalty for possession of child pornography is 10 years. Defendants charged in complaints are presumed innocent unless or until proven guilty in court.

Investigators were led to Duhamel and Granere while investigating cases involving child modeling websites in North Carolina and Indiana. Those cases

were prosecuted by the Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section of the Criminal Division of the U.S. Department of Justice in conjunction with FBI Field Offices and U.S. Attorney's Offices in the Eastern District of North Carolina and the Southern District of Indiana.

Recent investigation by the Utah FBI has confirmed that, up until the time of their arrests, Duhamel and Granere were running child modeling websites from in and around Salt Lake City, Utah. Records received in response to administrative subpoenas issued to Hotmail, PayPal, Go Daddy and Electric Lightwave tie both men to active child modeling websites.

The case against Duhamel and Granere is being investigated by the FBI and prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Karen M. Fojtik of the District of Utah and Jill R. Trumbull-Harris, Trial Attorney in the Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section of the Criminal Division of the U.S. Department of Justice.

###